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ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY REPORT

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Highlights

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LEADING THE NEWS

<u>U.S. Biofuel Quotas Would Get Modest Bump Under EPA</u> <u>Proposal</u>

By Jennifer A. Dlouhy and Mario Parker

The Trump administration advanced plans Friday to modestly lift U.S. biofuelblending targets, while dodging fights over how frequently to waive refineries from the quotas and how to offset those exemptions.

<u>Opponents Prep Response to 80-Mile Utah Oil Railway Plan</u>

By Tripp Baltz

Environmental groups plan to make their concerns known to a federal transportation agency about a proposed 80-mile railway to transport crude oil from the Uinta Basin in eastern Utah that could result in a quadrupling of oil production in the region.

<u>Dow, BASF Stop Fraud Suit Alleging EPA Chemical Report</u> Failures

By Daniel Seiden

Four large chemical manufacturers stopped law firm Kasowitz Benson Torres LLP from suing them under the False Claims Act for failing to meet a toxic substances reporting requirement.

FROM THE STATES

PG&E, Edison May Not Get California's Help on Fires by July 12

By Romy Varghese

California's biggest utilities—PG&E Corp., Edison International and Sempra Energy—may not get the help they need to deal with multibillion-dollar wildfire liabilities before lawmakers adjourn July 12 for recess.

California Ballot Measure Would Borrow \$7.9B For Fire, Water

By Romy Varghese

A proposed California ballot measure for the November 2020 general election would ask voters to approve borrowing \$7.88 billion for wildfire prevention and water needs.

GOP Members Slash Wisconsin Budget, Still Funds Water Programs

By Stephen Joyce

Wisconsin's Republican-controlled state Legislature gutted parts of a gubernatorial push for drinking water programs in the state's biennial budget, but a senior environmental official said the state's spending trajectory is headed in the right direction.

Alabama, Georgia Power Companies Recover \$143 Million From Feds

By Daniel Seiden

Alabama Power Co. and Georgia Power Co. are entitled to \$143 million for the U.S. Department of Energy's continuing breach of agreements to dispose of spent nuclear fuel, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims said.

Oklahoma Wants Vanquard Natural's Fees Treated as Secured Debt

By Diane Davis

Oklahoma is pushing back on bankrupt Vanguard Natural Resources Inc.'s plan to convert the royalties owed to the state to be treated as unsecured debt.

ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Plains Wins Reversal of Class Status for Oil Industry Workers

By Perry Cooper

Plains All American Pipeline LP won't have to face a certified class of oil industry workers and businesses affected by its 2016 shutdown of a crude oil pipeline near Santa Barbara, Calif.

CHEMICALS

<u>Dow, DuPont, Corteva Hit With Pension Class Action Over Spin-</u> Off

By Jacklyn Wille

DowDuPont's spin-off of its agriculture business to Corteva Inc. was part of a complex scheme to reduce the chemical conglomerate's pension liabilities, a new lawsuit alleges.

AROUND THE GLOBE

<u>India Aims Sweeping Tax Perks at Growing Electric Vehicle</u> Market

By Siri Bulusu and Lou Del Bello

India Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government is ramping up tax incentives to boost electric vehicle demand and production, in a bid to turn the country into a global manufacturing destination.

U.K. Renewable Energy Auction Could Spell the End of Subsidies

By Mathew Carr and Jeremy Hodges

An auction this year designed to encourage more renewable energy in Britain will probably for the first time see a winning price for offshore wind at wholesale rates, according to a fund manager at Investec Plc.

Markets Drive Germany's Exit From Coal Much Harder Than Merkel

By William Wilkes and Brian Parkin

The energy markets are driving Germany's decreasing dependence on coal faster than Chancellor Angela Merkel's retreat from the dirtiest power-plant fuel.

In Water-Stressed India, Farmers May Be Asked to Irrigate Less

By Bibhudatta Pradhan

India should provide incentives to farmers to adopt efficient water use to avert a looming crisis, according to the Economic Survey presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in parliament.

EU Parliament Names Environment Committee Lawmakers for New Term

By Stephen Gardner

The European Parliament's influential environment, food safety, and public health committee will start the 2019-2024 parliamentary term with 76 members who will work on draft European Union climate and environment laws.

India Lowers Tax for More Companies, Drops GST on Electric Vehicles

By Siri Bulusu

India has proposed to extend the lower 25% corporate tax rate to larger companies in its 2019-20 budget, along with lowering goods and services tax for electric vehicles, and introducing faceless tax assessments.

U.K. Business, Politicians Back Environment-Risk Reporting Push

By Michael Kapoor

U.K. businesses, accountants, and politicians broadly endorsed the government's plan to require public companies to detail climate-related risks in their financial reports.

China Issues Last Call to List Old Chemicals

By Michael Standaert

China is calling on companies to list chemicals they produced, used, or imported before Oct. 15, 2003, that don't appear on the country's existing chemical inventory system.

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